

REMARKS

The Applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 23-31. Non-elected claims 1-8, 11-12, 15-16 and 19-20 are presently canceled without prejudice, subject to applicant's reserved right to file a divisional application for this subject matter.

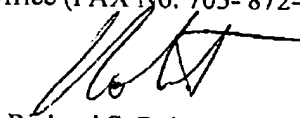
The undersigned respectfully requests re-examination of this application and believes it is now in condition for allowance. Such action is requested. If the examiner believes there is any matter which prevents allowance of the present application, it is requested that the undersigned be contacted to arrange for an interview which may expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (FAX No. 703- 872-9306) on December 22, 2003



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